

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Alexander Melville Bell, January 24, 1877, with transcript

Letter written by Alexander Graham Bell to his Father. Boston, Mass., January 24th, 1877.

Dear Papa:

Mr. Pinkert is unable to have types cast for lack of funds — and it is not convenient for me to give him any more just now. The matrices are finished and Pinkert says that — if his bill can be paid just now — he can arrange with the type-foundry for the immediate casting of type — but they will require him to pay one half of the type-founder's bill in advance. He says that the type-founder charges \$60.00 for 100 pounds of type but he thinks he can get them still cheaper.

We are ready to do something with Visible Speech at ones if type could be forthcoming. I propose issuing an introduction to Visible Speech the expenses of which will be paid by its publication in the Annals of the Deaf and Dumb — at least I hope so. Dr. Hill has spoken before the last Convention of Teachers — urging the introduction of Visible Speech into the school-system of Massachusetts.

Lee and Shepard have been inquiring of me the address of the “Agent for Visible Speech.”

I enclose Pinkert's bill. He says he does not know English well enough to make it out himself and so has asked me to do it. In haste.

Your affectionate son, Alec.